

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

21 November 1991

AM 10:00 CONVENE, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes:

24 October 1991

B. Dates of next meetings:

19 December 1991

16 January 1992

C. H.R. 2636, a bill to change the designs of circulating coins. Report on CFA testimony before House Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs and Coinage, 6 November 1991.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA 21/Nov/91-1, National Peace Garden, Hains Point. Preliminary design. (Previous: CFA 16/Jun/88-1.)
2. CFA 21/Nov/91-2, U.S. Reservation 467, James Creek Marina. Concession facility. Concept design. (Previous: CFA 16/May/91-2.)

B. General Services Administration

1. CFA 21/Nov/91-3, National Building Museum, Pension Building. Exterior site and landscape work. Preliminary design.
2. CFA 21/Nov/91-4, Department of Transportation, FAA, 800 Independence Avenue, S.W. Child Day Care Playground on C Street. Preliminary design.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 21 November 1991

B. General Services Administration

3. CFA 21/Nov/91-5, Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Placement of the sculpture, "Chthonodynamis."
4. CFA 21/Nov/91-6, Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Fence design for existing Child Development Center.

C. Department of State, International Center

1. CFA 21/Nov/91-7, Government of Bahrain, Connecticut Avenue at Van Ness Street, N.W. Design for an addition to the chancery.
2. CFA 21/Nov/91-8, Government of Singapore. Final design for chancery building. (Previous: CFA 24/Oct/91-2, CFA 25/Oct/90-2.)

D. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act
 - a. Appendix I.
2. Old Georgetown Act
 - a. O.G. 91-76, 3900 Reservoir Road, N.W. Georgetown University Hospital new research building. Revised concept. (Previous: CFA 24/Oct/91.)
 - b. Appendix II.

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 92-10	4630 Broad Branch Road, N.W. Charles Cerf Residence	Fence - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed fence.

S.L. 92-11	215 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.	Relocate ATM
HPA. 92-56	Signet Bank	- permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed installation of ATM machine.

S.L. 92-13	445 12th Street, N.W. Parcel 49C Partnership The Portals, Phase II	Excavation, sheeting, and shoring - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for sheeting and shoring. Working drawings to be submitted for review and approval prior to issuance of permit for above grade construction.

OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 91-115	3208 Volta Place, N.W.	Partial razing
HPA. 91-625	Georgetown Club	of building on alley - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for partial demolition of existing one-story storage building off alley or to proposed trellis work on walls to remain.

O.G. 92-1	2804 P Street, N.W.	Pool, addition
HPA. 92-1	Lehman and Hamer Residence	to rear and outbuilding - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed pool, addition to rear of residence, and outbuilding including roof deck, which comply with previously approved concept submission. See previous Action (O.G. 91-51).

O.G. 92-2	1312 33rd Street, N.W.	Replacement of
HPA. 92-14	Marellen Dunn Residence	rear doors - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed changes to existing rear doors as shown in supplemental material received and dated 11 November 1991.

O.G. 92-5	3160 O Street, N.W.	Sign -
HPA. 92-25	Schoenhof's Foreign Books	permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed sign as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 13 November 1991.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 92-7	3200 M Street, N.W. Banana Republic	Signs - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed replacement signs.

O.G. 92-8	1115 30th Street, N.W.	New entrance,
HPA. 92-28	CP Private Part. Georgetown, Inc. Georgetown Place North	alterations, signs - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations, new entrance, and new shutters which are to be applied on street front and side elevations shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 13 November 1991. No objection to two sign plaques on piers of entrance trellis.

O.G. 92-9	3233 N Street, N.W.	Sidewall
HPA. 92-29	Odd Fellows Home Assoc.	bracing - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed sidewall bracing as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 14 November 1991.

O.G. 92-10	1315-1321 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.	Awnings -
HPA. 92-30	GLN Limited Partnership	permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed awnings.

O.G. 92-13	1242 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.	Wall plaques,
HPA. 92-33	Jefferson Management Timberland	flagpoles - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed bronze plaques ONLY.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 92-14	1217 Potomac Street, N.W.	Rear additions
HPA. 92-34	Alexander Meeraus Residence	- permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed rear additions.

O.G. 92-15	1403 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.	Repairs -
HPA. 92-35	People's Drug Store	permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed repairs to exterior of building.

O.G. 92-16	1314 29th Street, N.W.	New facade -
HPA. 92-39	Saile and Owens Residence	conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of changes to the existing facade. Recommend careful delineation of new window elements so as not to increase apparent scale of enlarged openings. Submit working drawings when ready.

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THE PENSION BUILDING
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MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

21 November 1991

The meeting was convened at 10:20 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at the Pension Building, 441 F Street, N.W., after a tour of the Southeast Federal Center site with a representative from the General Services Administration.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Neil H. Porterfield, Vice Chairman
 Hon. Joan Abrahamson
 Hon. Adele Chatfield-Taylor
 Hon. Robert A. Peck

Staff present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
 Mrs. Sue Kohler
 Mr. Jose Martinez-Canino

National Capital
Planning Commission
staff present: Mr. Patrick Tribe

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of the minutes of the 24 October 1991 meeting. The minutes were approved without objection.

B. Dates of next meetings. The dates were approved as:

19 December 1991
16 January 1992

The Secretary said there was a possibility that there would not be a December meeting because of the lack of submissions.

C. H.R. 2636, a bill to change the designs of circulating coins. Report on CFA testimony before the House Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs and Coinage, 6 November 1991. The Secretary reported for the record that he had testified at this hearing, which had also included testimony on a bill to introduce a one dollar coin. He said the transcript of his testimony would be appended to the minutes as an exhibit.

Exhibit A

Ms. Chatfield-Taylor said she would like to take the opportunity to say that she had read Mrs. Kohler's recent updating of the Commission's Brief History, and she thought it was well done and an important effort. The other members seconded her statement, and Mrs. Kohler and the Secretary thanked the Commission for its support.

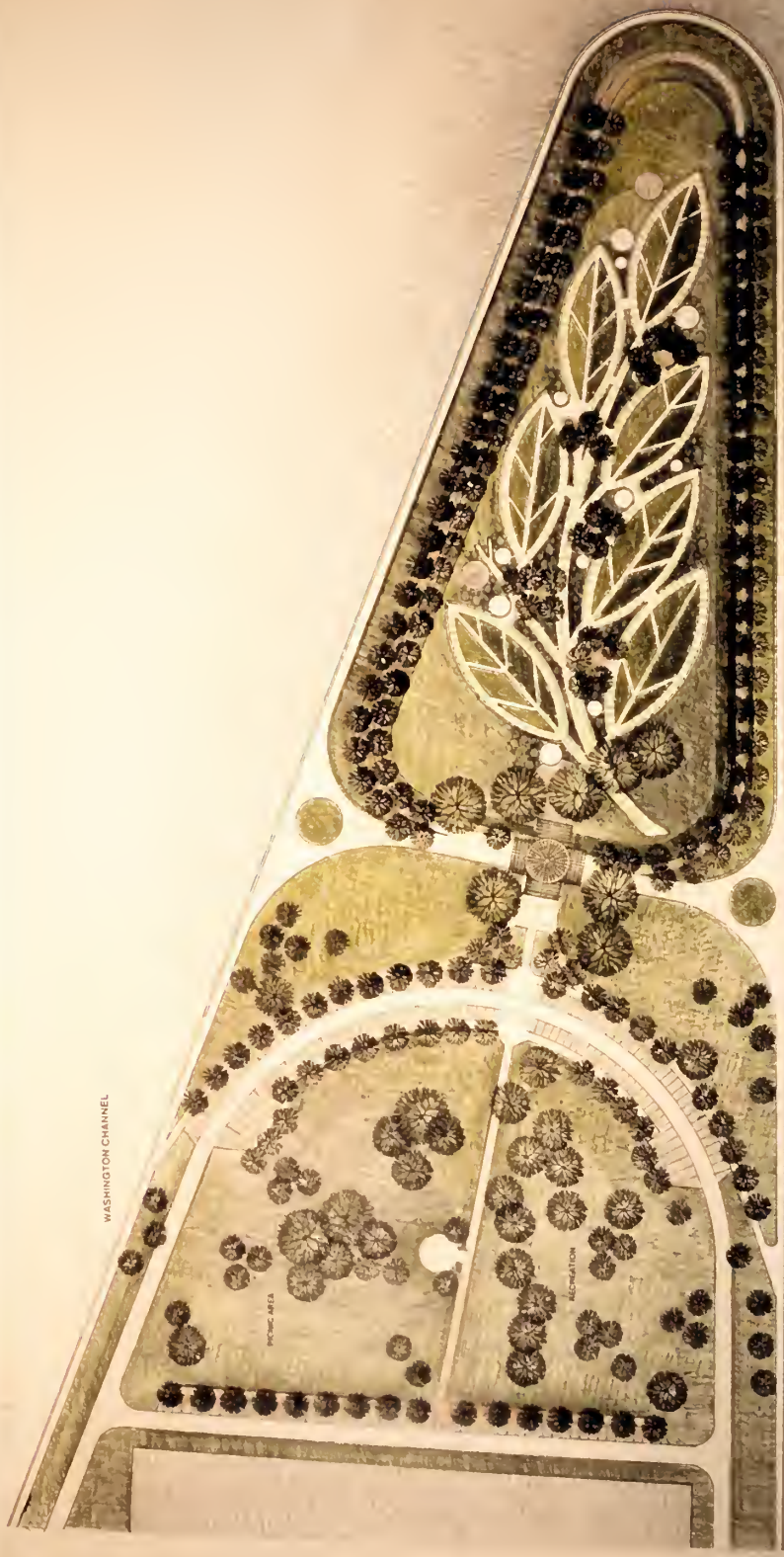
II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. CFA 21/NOV/91-1, National Peace Garden, Hains Point. Preliminary design. (Previous: CFA 16/JUN/88-1.) Staff member Jeffrey Carson recalled that the previous submission had been for site approval only; there was no design at that time. He noted also that the members had requested that the existing sculpture on the site, called "The Awakening", not be considered part of any future design. Mr. Carson then introduced John Parsons from the Park Service.

Mr. Parsons observed that the membership of the Commission had changed considerably since the site was approved. He pointed out the location, at the tip of Hains Point, noting that it was actually on the 8th Street axis of the Mall. He said the 1984 Park Service plan for East Potomac Park had reserved this site for a memorial, preferably a garden rather than a structure, and when the National Peace Garden was authorized in 1987, this seemed to be the proper location. He added, in response to the Commission's previous concern, that "The Awakening" had been removed for repair; he said the Park Service was working with the sculptor to find an appropriate location elsewhere.

Christopher Ratcliff, chairman of the design committee for the sponsoring group, introduced Paul Spreiregen, professional adviser for the design competition, and Eduardo Catalano, the winner of the competition. Mr. Ratcliff said he had observed that the existing memorials in Washington, even though dedicated to a single person, really commemorated a set of ideas. He said this one would be the same; he saw it as commemorating the hope of peace, set in nature; he thought it would contribute to the urban design of Hains Point as well as to the idea of peace throughout the world. He hoped, too, that it would be an inspiration to children who would come



THE NATIONAL PEACE
WASHINGTON

SITE PLAN

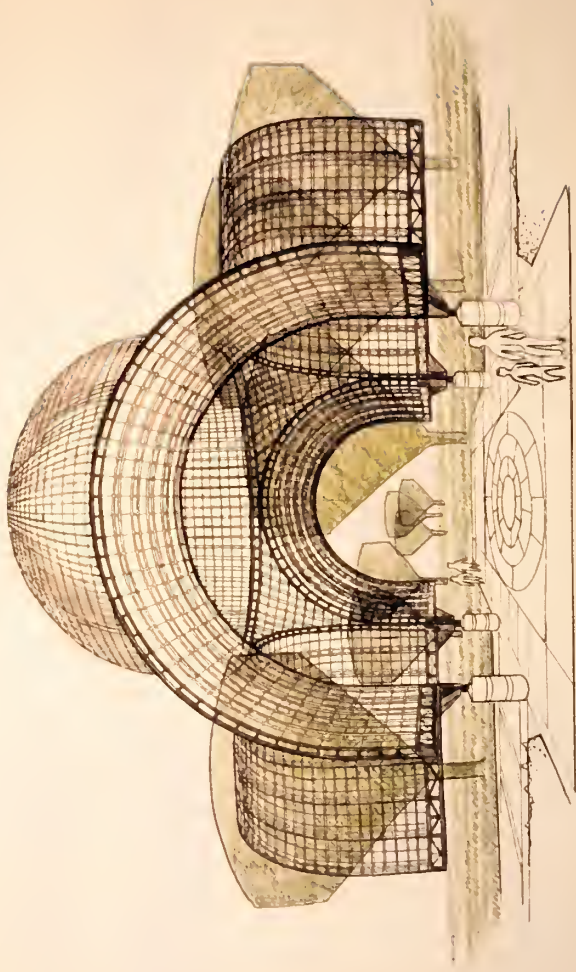
21 November 1991 - 1

The National Peace Garden



21 November 1991 - 1

The National Peace Garden



21 November 1991 - 1

The National Peace Garden

with their parents. He said he and his group had been working with the designer and the Park Service since the 1989 competition.

Mr. Spreiregen was asked to continue the presentation. (Before he began, his previous position as professional advisor in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial competition and several others was noted by the Chairman.) Mr. Spreiregen said there were three things to consider in approaching the design: (1) Its appropriateness to the site; (2) Its appropriateness to other memorials in the area; and (3) Its appropriateness as related to the history of landscape design. He acknowledged that it was an ambitious design, that the projected cost was not modest, and that the budget would have to include a perpetual maintenance fund.

Mr. Spreiregen said the total area of East Potomac Park comprised 300 acres; the Peace Garden at Hains Point would occupy 13 acres at the tip, a site which he considered the last primary monumental site left in the city. He compared the size of the area to Franklin square in Washington, and to the Tuileries and Luxembourg gardens in Paris. Mr. Spreiregen then described the three river landscapes of Washington: the deep-cut gorges above Chain Bridge, the fall zone running from the monumental core to the 14th Street bridge, where the man-made and natural features were in balance, and the basically flat area around Hains Point, where man-made structures of minor interest dominated the shoreline and the sky was a major element. He showed drawings of Mr. Catalano's design, noting the tree-lined raised promenade around the perimeter, which would reinforce the ground-sky relationship, and block out views of the shoreline structures from the garden area; views of the river could also be had from the promenade, although he did not consider them important ones. Mr. Spreiregen then showed drawings and slides of several historical gardens that were also meant to be viewed from a raised area: the Tuileries and Luxembourg gardens in Paris, and the Katsura Palace garden in Japan. He noted the ground pattern designs and parterres in these gardens, and in Lafayette and Franklin squares, comparing them to the design proposed by Mr. Catalano.

Mr. Catalano was then asked to discuss his design. He said it consisted only of a garden based on the theme of an olive branch; there were no man-made objects as there were in the other competition designs. He said the passive nature of the peace garden would be separated from the more dynamic activities of the rest of Hains Point by trees, and there would also be trees within the garden to shade the parterre. He saw the garden as a sanctuary, a cool place of retreat. Mr. Catalano showed drawings of his design; he said the olive branch would have seven leaves, planted with ground cover and

outlined by walks in a light-colored material; the olive berries would be represented by white planters, filled with white flowers to symbolize purity. The background would be grass. At night small lights would define the olive branch.

The Chairman said he had been taken with the idea of a peace garden from the beginning, and he liked the use of an olive branch. His concern, however, was whether people walking through the garden or looking at it from the 5-foot-high promenade, would really see the olive branch and get the point. He was especially concerned that the planters would not be perceived as "berries" but simply as planters.

Vice-Chairman Porterfield had the same concerns, noting that the design would not be viewed from the upper floors of an aristocratic palace, as was the case in European precedents. He did not find the design strongly reminiscent of peace and wondered if the message would come through. He was also unsure that there would be enough incentive for people to go down and walk through the garden; he thought those walking on the promenade would tend to look out at the river rather than down into the garden.

Ms. Chatfield-Taylor thought it could be quite beautiful, or it could be just a series of details, depending on how it was worked out, and how it was maintained. She was worried about the effect of the low walls, and whether they might give the impression of architectural remains on a battlefield. She also noted that not much had been said about a rather elaborate, lattice-work domed gateway at the entrance to the garden.

Mr. Ratcliff said he shared the concerns expressed, and more computer sketches would be done to determine what the precise effect would be on the viewer.

Ms. Abrahamson said she was concerned that the design did not have the feel of a real garden; it looked more like the approach to a corporate headquarters. The Chairman agreed that the poetical aspect of the early sketch had been lost. Ms. Chatfield-Taylor suggested that an area of tranquil water might help. Mr. Peck said he did not think the comparison to the Tuileries or Lafayette Square was really valid, because in those places people walk through not just because they are attractive spaces but because they lead to someplace else; in this case, he wondered what would draw people out to the tip. He noted that the vista dribbled out at the end, and he thought something had to be created for people to do while they were there; the passive area had to become more active.

The Chairman referred again to the problem of designs that look good in plan but are seldom seen that way; as an

example he cited the L'Enfant plan incised in Freedom Plaza. To raise the visitor far enough above the garden so that the symbol of peace would become apparent, and to create a point of interest to draw people into the area, he made the suggestion (which was offered for what it was worth, and not as a condition of approval) that it might be possible to find an old lighthouse and place it near the southern tip of the site, both as destination and a potential overlook. Such structures were typically placed on points of land and so would not seem inappropriate on Hains Point; the preservation of lighthouses was a serious issue with historic preservationists, most occupied facilities having been declared obsolete by the Government. A suitable one might be up for rescue, and have some symbolic meaning as well as a beacon to freedom and peace. In any case, he told the applicants that the Commission needed to have more information before taking any action, specifically section drawings, a model, and something that would give a clear idea of the progressive experience on the ground. Exhibit B

2. CFA 21/NOV/91-2, U. S. Reservation 467, James Creek Marina. Concession facility. Concept design. (Previous: CFA 16/MAY/91-2.) Staff member Jose Martinez pointed out the location on a map, noting the proximity to Fort McNair, and showed the original design, which the Commission had disapproved as inappropriate to the site. He then showed a new concept design, a Shingle Style structure, similar to 19th-century boathouses.

The members all agreed that the new design was a great improvement, and approved it as a concept, although there were questions about the fenestration, a decorative architectural element on one of the facades, and an asymmetrical curve on the porch--elements that were not in the vocabulary of the style. The architect, Leonard Taylor, of Taylor & Latham, architects, explained his reason for using these elements, but the members were not convinced; he was asked to come back with further studies and a model. Exhibit C

B. General Services Administration

1. CFA 21/NOV/91-3, National Building Museum, Pension Building. Exterior site and landscape work. Preliminary design. Before the Assistant Secretary introduced this project, Ms. Chatfield-Taylor asked if she should recuse herself, since she was on the board of the National Building Museum. The Chairman and the other members present agreed that she should stay for the discussion, but it would be preferable if she did not vote. She agreed, and the Assistant Secretary introduced architect Jerry Karn to make the presentation.

Plant List

- | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|----|----|---------------|------------|
| 1 | Deert Horse Chestnut Tree | 3 | 6 | Gravelly Hill | adj |
| 2 | Common Horse Chestnut Tree | 40 | 10 | Torus | 1 |
| 3 | Common Horse Chestnut Tree | 40 | 11 | Washington | Receptor 2 |
| 4 | Croton al. Silver Birch Tree | 20 | 12 | Wood | 2 |
| 5 | Japanese Red Pine | 50 | 13 | Wood | 2 |
| 6 | Black Pine | 40 | 14 | Gravelly Hill | 90 |
| 7 | London Planter | 50 | 15 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 8 | Maple Tree | 50 | 16 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 9 | Maple Tree | 50 | 17 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 10 | Maple Tree | 50 | 18 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 11 | Maple Tree | 50 | 19 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 12 | Maple Tree | 50 | 20 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 13 | Maple Tree | 50 | 21 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 14 | Maple Tree | 50 | 22 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 15 | Maple Tree | 50 | 23 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 16 | Maple Tree | 50 | 24 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 17 | Maple Tree | 50 | 25 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 18 | Maple Tree | 50 | 26 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 19 | Maple Tree | 50 | 27 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 20 | Maple Tree | 50 | 28 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 21 | Maple Tree | 50 | 29 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 22 | Maple Tree | 50 | 30 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 23 | Maple Tree | 50 | 31 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
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| 25 | Maple Tree | 50 | 33 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 26 | Maple Tree | 50 | 34 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 27 | Maple Tree | 50 | 35 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 28 | Maple Tree | 50 | 36 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 29 | Maple Tree | 50 | 37 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 30 | Maple Tree | 50 | 38 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
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| 33 | Maple Tree | 50 | 41 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
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| 37 | Maple Tree | 50 | 45 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
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| 39 | Maple Tree | 50 | 47 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
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| 50 | Maple Tree | 50 | 58 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 51 | Maple Tree | 50 | 59 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
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| 53 | Maple Tree | 50 | 61 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
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| 56 | Maple Tree | 50 | 64 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 57 | Maple Tree | 50 | 65 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 58 | Maple Tree | 50 | 66 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 59 | Maple Tree | 50 | 67 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 60 | Maple Tree | 50 | 68 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 61 | Maple Tree | 50 | 69 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 62 | Maple Tree | 50 | 70 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 63 | Maple Tree | 50 | 71 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 64 | Maple Tree | 50 | 72 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 65 | Maple Tree | 50 | 73 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 66 | Maple Tree | 50 | 74 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 67 | Maple Tree | 50 | 75 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 68 | Maple Tree | 50 | 76 | Gravelly Hill | 1 40 |
| 69 | Maple Tree | 50 | 77 | | |

New Museum Attraction Handed
New Volucular Entrance
Existing Halls Paved Sidewalk

12345 Street

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM

District Court Building "B"

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial
(NLEOM)

District Court Building "A"

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

[illegible]

THE QUALITY PLACE

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National Building Museum -

Landscape proposal

The Chairman told Mr. Karn that he had seen the plans and had no objections except for the glass canopy proposed for the G Street entrance. Mr. Peck agreed, citing especially its "split-level" aspect. He said the closing of F Street between 4th and 5th streets also bothered him, as he was opposed to street closings in general, feeling that they cut whole areas off from the life of the city; he recalled that he had expressed that opinion when the closing of F Street in front of the Portrait Gallery was discussed at the last meeting. He added, however, that he was willing to listen to the reasons put forth for the closing.

Mr. Karn said the area in front of the Pension Building had been a public park until F Street was cut through in 1936. He said he realized that the Commission had just recently commented unfavorably on the 1970s closing of F Street in front of the Portrait Gallery, but he did not think the situations were the same. He noted that F Street between 7th and 9th streets was still part of the traditional shopping area, whereas that was not the case at Judiciary Square; he pointed out also that F Street had been cut off at 3rd Street when the Southwest Freeway was built. Mr. Karn said the street closing had the full support of GSA, the Park Service, the Courts in the area, and, of course, the National Building Museum.

A discussion of the canopy followed. Mr. Karn said that with the closing of F Street, the G Street entrance would become the drop-off point for the Building Museum's various functions, and a canopy was needed for protection against the weather. He noted that the size of the entrance was small in relation to the great size of the building, and the canopy had to relate to this condition as well as to the building's architectural style. He thought the glass and metal canopy did relate to the roof structure, and that the smaller, lower canopy near the door provided a more human scale.

Ms. Chatfield-Taylor asked Mr. Karn if he had thought of using a canvas canopy; he said the cost of setting up and removing was too costly, and if left up, the canvas quickly became dirty and unattractive. The Chairman said there were numerous examples of permanent canvas canopies in New York, and appearance did not seem to be a problem. He said he did not like the idea of bringing a skylight kind of solution down to ground level.

Vice-Chairman Porterfield commented on the landscaping. He was concerned that it might be too fussy, and he did not like the idea of planting groups of trees at the corners of the building.

There was no further discussion, and the concept design was approved, except for the canopy, with the expectation that there would be further submissions covering that item and details of the F Street closing, landscape plan, materials, and plans for the reconfigured parking lot. Exhibit D

2. CFA 21/NOV/91-4, Department of Transportation, FAA, 800 Independence Avenue, S.W. Child Day Care Playground on C Street. Preliminary design. Mr. Carson pointed out the proposed location, at the rear of the building, facing C Street, and then introduced Brian Stephenson, from Stephenson & Good, landscape architects, to discuss the plans.

Mr. Stephenson showed photographs of the building and the site, saying that the playground for infants and pre-schoolers would occupy a 3200 square foot area under the arcade and would be enclosed with a 7-foot picket-type fence. He showed samples of the rubber-like material that would cover the floor, and color samples for the painted metal play equipment, which would be off-white with bright accent colors. The Chairman asked if the play equipment would be visible over the fence; Mr. Stephenson said it would not. There were no objections to the plans, and they were unanimously approved.

Exhibit E

3. CFA 21/NOV/91-5, Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Placement of the sculpture, "Chthonodynamis". Staff member Sue Kohler showed a photograph of the sculpture, which had been given to the Department of Energy by the artist, Robert Russin, a stone carver and professor of art at the University of Wyoming. She said the work, also called "Earth Energy", was made of dark blue Norwegian granite and had been described as a vision of mankind's relationship to the forces of energy he had released in the world. The total height, including a 4-foot base, would be 9 feet, and it would be placed off 10th Street, near the connecting link between the north and south buildings. She showed a site plan and photographs of the site. John Keczerski, from GSA, was introduced to answer questions, but there were none and the sculpture and its location were unanimously approved. Exhibit F

4. CFA 21/NOV/91-6, Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Fence design for existing Child Development Center. Mr. Martinez recalled the Commission's previous approval of the development center and showed a site plan and photographs. He said the fence was to keep people out of the area and would be similar to fencing elsewhere in the complex. There were no objections and the project was unanimously approved. Exhibit G

C. Department of State, International Center

1. CFA 21 NOV/91-7, Government of Bahrain, Connecticut Avenue at Van Ness Street, N.W. Design for an addition to the chancery. Mr. Carson told the members that the chancery had been approved by the Commission twelve years ago; he said the proposal at this time was to build two small additions on the existing rear terrace. He showed drawings, prepared by the original architects, TAC of Cambridge, Mass., and said the new construction would be in the same materials as the existing. He noted also that the area's ANC had approved the plans. There were no objections to the additions or their design, and the project was unanimously approved.

Exhibit H

2. CFA 21 NOV/91-8, Government of Singapore. Final design for chancery building. (Previous: CFA 24 OCT/91-2, CFA 25 OCT/90-2.) Mr. Martinez introduced Bernard Wulff from RTKL, architects, to discuss the response made to the Commission's recommendations at the October meeting. Mr. Wulff said they had made a serious study of the comments, and although the building had to reflect the image the government of Singapore wanted, he thought the changes made were responsive to the Commission's objections.

He said the government still wanted the body of the building to be brick, but was willing to return to a teak, rather than aluminum trellis, which would be allowed to weather naturally. He showed samples of a Roman brick, lighter in color than that seen before, laid with a light mortar, using a very thin joint. He also showed samples of limestone, to be used for the base, trim, and piers, and black granite for an accent band at the top. The roof would be a terne-colored metal. He said a sample wall would be erected on the site showing the brick, limestone, and teak. Mr. Wulff also showed a landscape plan and pointed out several trees and other screening material which did not show up on the rendering of the building.

The members thought the material samples were much better, although there was still some concern about the effect of the brick. The Chairman emphasized that there should be enough variation in the color to avoid a monotone, "public housing" look. The final plans were unanimously approved, although approval of the brick was withheld until the wall panel could be inspected. Exhibit I

D. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. Appendix I. The Appendix was approved

without objection.

2. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 91-76, 3900 Reservoir Road, N.W. Georgetown University Hospital, new research building. Revised concept. (Previous: CFA 24/OCT/91.) The Assistant Secretary noted that the design had been considerably revised since the Commission had disapproved it the preceding month; he said the Georgetown Board was recommending concept approval, and the applicant had been authorized to proceed with site work. He showed drawings and a model, pointing out that the massing had changed and the building would now step down toward the park. He noted also that the height of the Lombardi Center would be increased, making the two buildings more compatible. The members found the design much improved, and it was unanimously approved.

Exhibit J

b. Appendix II. Mr. Peck said he would recuse himself from consideration of O.G. 92-8, 1115 30th Street, N.W., because of an involvement of his firm with the project; otherwise, the Appendix was approved without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

o o o o

Minutes on Executive Session, 21 November 1991

The members of the Commission met in executive session at a number of sites including:

Southeast Federal Center. GSA officials held a briefing to discuss plans for the development of this area as a major center for federal employment. Concept plans had been approved by the Commission more than two years ago, so it was felt by member Robert Peck in particular that it would be useful for the more recently appointed members to know what the project entails before the Commission is asked to review specific development proposals.

Some general comments were made with respect to the plans: 1) there appeared to be a need to develop activities directly focused on the water's edge and the Anacostia River. There ought to be a greater accommodation of boat storage and rental such as one associates with the Charles River Basin. 2) Greater cooperation should be sought in integrating the development of the Center with planning efforts now underway for areas immediately to the north and west of the Center, in

particular the proposed mixed-use development of the South Capitol Street corridor. 3) With such a vast concentration of office space it was considered paramount, especially by Mr. Peck, to introduce a substantial amount of residential use to bring the development as a whole into some better balance of elements that generally make for a more successful community. Total working population is projected to be around 24,000. It was felt that this approximated the conditions of the Federal Triangle, and that GSA was creating yet another large enclave of city space that would be essentially dead for sixteen out of twenty-four hours a day. GSA responded that it lacked the authority to construct housing, its principal mandate being to provide office space. It was suggested that it might be worth exploring with Congress the possibility of obtaining the needed legislation.

o o o o

Design of guard-houses at the White House, National Park Service, National Capital Region. An inspection was made of sites at the north and south ends of West Executive Avenue. At each site officials had laid out the outside dimensions of the size structure that was thought to be needed. In addition, a new design was shown to the members. Essentially it was a glass pavilion, rectangular in form, columnated, and topped with a flat classical entablature, both in limestone. There was generally a positive response. A number of points were discussed, including the spacing of the columns and the divisions of the glass panes. Some study should be given to the possibility of divorcing the supporting column completely from the enclosing window wall and treating the glass as an entirely non-structural screen, including the possibility of eliminating the sense of any structural corners, i.e., butt-jointed glass walls, with little or no secondary divisions.

Park Service officials agreed to study this, and will make a mockup to show the Commission at a future meeting.

There was a consensus that an acceptable solution was very much at hand.

Park Service officials included, among others, James McDaniel and architect Michael Summerlin. Representatives of security functions were also present.

o o o o

Korean War Veterans Memorial, National Park Service/American Battle Monuments Commission. The Commission visited the offices of Cooper-Lecky to see the latest changes to the design. A large-scale model was the focus of the visit.

Since last seen by the Commission, the number of infantry remained the same at 19 and were still arrayed on the triangular field in a dispersed formation, i.e., not in a column. However the alternating strips of granite had been proportionally narrowed and the entire field raised some 8 inches to give a sense of abstraction to the scene and also discourage visitors from walking out in the field itself. The color of the granite strips was also changed to match the wall.

Another major change involved the relationship of the triangular plane to the pool. Both the adjoining wall and field were literally extended into the pool itself, with the apex of the triangle being approximately two-thirds into the diameter of the circular form.

A final change involved the reduction of the size of the facial images on the wall so that they would be recognized as an individual subject only at close range.

The members expressed approval of the changes made, saying they were very substantial improvements. The one issue that everyone felt was not resolved was the figures themselves and how they were arranged. They seemed too random and arbitrary and still lacked cohesion as a single composition.

The architect agreed to do some further studies.

During their luncheon break, the members looked at plans for an addition to the Vice-President's residence on Observatory Circle. They thought the addition would improve the appearance of the house, and it was unanimously approved.

Exhibit K

The members of the Commission present were:

Joan Abrahamson
Adele Chatfield-Taylor
Robert Peck
J. Carter Brown

Others present were:

General Paul X. Kelley, American Battle Monuments
Commission
General Richard Stilwell, American Battle Monuments
Commission

Signed,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

STATEMENT OF CHARLES H. ATHERTON, SECRETARY
OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND COINAGE
OF THE HOUSE BANKING COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 1991

Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee, on behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts, I want to thank you for this opportunity to testify on a bill that would authorize changing the designs of our circulating coins. The Chairman, J. Carter Brown, asked me to express his regrets that he could not be here today. Because of his keen interest in the arts, and especially in the design of our nation's coinage, he has been closely following this redesign initiative, as has the entire Commission.

Our interest in coinage matters goes back a long way, to 1915, in fact, when the Commission first took an active role in urging the Mint to develop new designs, an effort, I might personally add, that resulted in some of the best-looking coins this country has ever had.

The Commission felt then, as it does today, that each generation of Americans ought to have an opportunity to express

its cultural values in a variety of ways, and the design of our coins is uniquely national in character. At the same time, coins have an individual dimension in the experience of each and every one of us, and this adds enormously to their appeal as a means for expressing a society's culture. So it follows that the Commission is in general an enthusiastic supporter of any legislation that would promote these ends.

Having said this, I should nevertheless point out several reservations the Commission has over the legislation before you today, i.e., H.R. 2636.

Our principal concern is that it mandates the change of all circulating coinage within a specific six year period from the date of the enactment of this legislation. This is a tall order, especially if we are ever to achieve the design excellence that is appropriate to a national coin. That can only be done through the kind of painstaking search that comes with a national competition, if we are truly to reach all Americans in this endeavor. We also feel strongly that the American public should be involved in coin redesign as well. At the same time our past experience indicates that not all of our most distinguished artists are automatically attracted to such an approach, so ways have to be found to engage them as well as rank and file citizens. This will take both time and money to accomplish, as well as a strong commitment on the part of everyone involved.

Secondly, the Commission agrees with the Mint that the American people as a whole are quite fond of their existing coinage, or at the very least are not particularly excited about the concept of change. Therefore it would seem prudent if this legislation were to direct a more cautious approach by limiting changes to one coin at a time, which would relate more closely to the all-important factor of public acceptance. While the legislation could make clear the intent of modifying the designs of all coins, it could leave open the schedule within which these changes should take place. Thus if unexpected difficulties were to occur with one coin, the legislation would allow some breathing room before going on to the next.

Such an approach would seem to be well-suited to the intent of the Congress in making the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights a subject of the first coin to be redesigned. Since it would only be minted for a period of two years, the Mint would have an excellent opportunity to gauge the public's reaction to the new issue and to learn in the process what needed to be done to make the overall program of change more acceptable.

I believe that the key to acceptability gets down basically to the appeal of the coin to the public. This is a function of the subject matter and the interest it sustains, but more than anything perhaps, is the intrinsic beauty of the coin. Give the American people a beautiful new coin, and the chances for its

success are virtually assured.

This concludes the Commission's remarks, Mr. Chairman. I would be happy at this time to answer any questions the committee may have, especially in regard to the all-important function of design.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

202-504-2200
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EXHIBIT B

9 December 1991

Dear Mr. Stanton:

During its meeting of 21 November 1991, the Commission reviewed the preliminary design for the proposed National Peace Garden at Hains Point.

Eduardo Catalano's winning design, an olive branch, could itself be an idea of universal appeal. The thought that such a symbol would be seen best from the air is a fascinating concept. Nevertheless, while the scheme would probably work from this perspective, it is from the ground level that it becomes less persuasive.

The design as presented is linear and has a beginning, the latticed entrance pavilion, and an end, the "amphitheatre" which descends from the raised promenade to the river. Unfortunately, since the end feature cannot be seen from the entrance pavilion, the intended progression loses definition. Without a point of focus, there may be little incentive for entering the garden.

This is not our only concern. The garden is planned as a parterre and was, during the presentation, consistently compared to existing parterres and squares elsewhere, all of which have urban settings or at least some structure of greater importance than themselves. In general, a parterre is a complicated geometrical landscape kept very low to the ground, defined by hard edges and best appreciated from an elevated position: the larger the scale, the higher the elevation. Herein lies the problem.

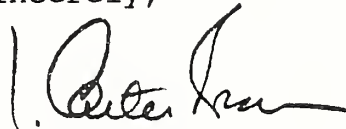
The actual pattern of the Peace Garden is comparatively large in scale with respect to traditional parterres. As such, in order to appreciate the meaning of the garden, it must be seen in its entirety. Hence, an elevated point of view free of obstacles is required. The tree-lined promenade is intended to provide that point of view. However, at a

Mr. Stanton
Page Two

level roughly five feet above the level of the parterre, the promenade is unlikely to fulfill that function; the meaning of the garden may be lost. To understand this potential problem more clearly, the Commission is convinced that further review will require additional drawings, especially cross-sections, and an accurate model. The Commission also had problems with the way those planters might read.

Again, please accept the Commission's enthusiastic support for the National Peace Garden idea and its keen interest in every phase of design development. As always, the staff is available should questions arise in the interim.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert Stanton
Director, National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

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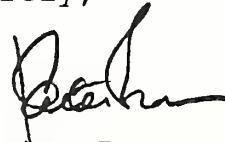
EXHIBIT C

Dear Mr. Stanton:

During its 21 November 1991 meeting the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the revised concept plans for the proposed James Creek Marina concession structure at the foot of 2nd Street, S.W. The scheme presented was approved, with minor reservations, for further design development. I should add that there was enthusiasm for the direction of the new design, which we found much more appropriate than the initial proposal.

The Commission's concerns were directed at the variety of unrelated roof slopes, the "paste-on" architectural elements on the north facade, and the overall detailing of the windows and the porch. We request further study of these items and suggest a simple model be furnished as part of the next submission. We appreciate the cooperation of all who have been involved, and as always, the staff is available should questions arise.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert Stanton, Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

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9 December 1991

EXHIBIT D

Dear Mr. Handley:

The Commission gave concept approval to relandscaping the Pension Building for the National Building Museum at its 21 November 1991 meeting. This includes tying the Museum grounds to the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial by modifying the F Street right of way, a feature that is, as you know, a matter of some controversy. On the one hand, the added safety of visitors to the museum exiting from the Metro system who must cross F Street in the process argues for such a change. At the same time, it should be recognized that the original park-like context south of the Museum disappeared long ago with the construction of the two courthouses on the northwest and northeast corners of Judiciary Square, and more recently, with the construction of the Law Enforcement Memorial. The Square and the Pension Building are two quite separate entities, and any variations on the road alignment and its landscape treatment should recognize this.

There were other aspects to the proposed landscape changes that in the space of our meeting appeared reasonable but would probably bear further scrutiny as the architect works toward developing the designs.

Chief among these is the glass canopy on the north side. We recognize this is to identify and accommodate the needs of becoming the principal ceremonial entrance to events hosted in the Great Hall, so we have no quarrel with the concept. The design, however, is somehow inappropriate and needs to be reconsidered. It may be that the best solution would be to accept the facts and treat the entrance in a modest and understated way, with a canvas canopy, rather than as an opportunity for a major statement.

Another feature that we found questionable was the special planting at the corners, especially those at the northwest and northeast. With such a remarkably strong building, the solution for landscaping is to

Mr. Handley
Page Two

keep it similarly strong and therefore of the utmost simplicity. The materials might best be limited to grass or some ground cover and shade trees at the most.

Due to the very limited time we had available, we did not touch on items like the parking arrangement and its ability to accommodate large trucks, or the lighting and signs that we understand are part of the plans. The materials are also important, especially the walkways; brick, which may seem an obvious solution, may not prove, upon further examination, to be the ideal solution. These are, of course, important items, and we should look at them in detail at the appropriate time. Meanwhile, the key again is simplicity, and every effort should be made to keep these elements from getting too complicated.

We look forward to a continuing review of the plans as they are developed and become available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

James C. Handley
Regional Administrator
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407

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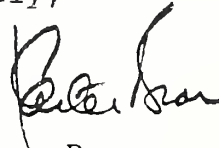
EXHIBIT E

9 December 1991

Dear Mr. Handley:

During its meeting 21 November 1991, the Commission reviewed and approved the design and materials for a proposed Department of Transportation child day care playground overlooking C Street at the FAA Building on Independence Avenue, S.W.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", is written over the typed name.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

James C. Handley
Regional Administrator
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407

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EXHIBIT F

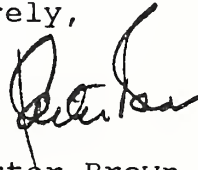
9 December 1991

Dear Mr. Handley:

At its meeting on 21 November, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the General Services Administration's plans for placing the sculpture, "Chthonodynamis" (Earth Energy), by Robert Russin, at the Forrestal Complex.

I am happy to tell you that the sculpture and its location, off 10th Street, near the link between the north and south buildings, were approved.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

James C. Handley
Regional Administrator
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407

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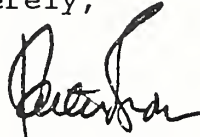
EXHIBIT G

9 December 1991

Dear Mr. Handley:

During its meeting 21 November 1991, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the proposed boundary fence of the day care facility for the Department of Energy at the Forrestal Building, Independence Avenue at 11th Street, S.W.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", written over a horizontal line.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

James C. Handley
Regional Administrator
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407

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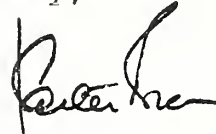
9 December 1991

EXHIBIT H

Dear Mr. Johnson:

During its meeting 21 November 1991, the Commission reviewed and is pleased to approve the design of and materials for two small additions on the existing terrace at the rear of the chancery of Bahrain.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", written over a horizontal line.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Herbert W. Johnson
Project Manager
International Center Project
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

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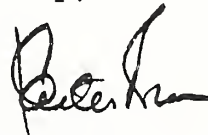
EXHIBIT I

9 December 1991

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Commission reviewed and approved a revised material selection for the new chancery of Singapore at the International Center on 21 November 1991. We are pleased by the response to our previous comments, particularly the reintroduction of teak for ornamental screens and window railings. The selection of Hanley brick and Alabama limestone should work well together. The color of the mortar will, of course, have a considerable effect on how these materials appear. We therefore request that a sample panel of the masonry units be erected on site for review prior to proceeding with the erection of the exterior finish.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Herbert W. Johnson
Project Manager
International Center Project
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

AGENDA ITEM EXHIBITS

21 November 1991

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 91-76	3900 Reservoir Road, N.W.	New research
HPA. 91-393	Georgetown University Hospital	building - concept

ACTION: No objection to concept design shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 13 November 1991. Recommend continued design development for review by the Georgetown Board prior to submission of final working drawings. No objection to site preparation and excavation authorization.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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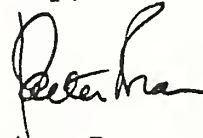
EXHIBIT K

9 December 1991

Dear Mr. Earle:

This confirms that the Commission reviewed and approved the design for an addition to the Vice President's residence on 21 November 1991. The proposed work fits in well with other recent additions and should be a net improvement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Carter Brown", written over a horizontal line.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Lawrence Earle
Department of the Navy
Chesapeake Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Building 212, Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374-2121

